

California Legislature

February 19, 2004

Patrick Wright, Executive Director
California Bay-Delta Authority
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Gary Hunt, Chairman
California Bay-Delta Advisory Committee
c/o California Strategies, L.L.C.
18800 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 190
Irvine, California 92612

RE: THE DELTA WETLANDS FEASIBILITY STUDY

Dear Mr. Wright and Mr. Hunt:

We are pleased to see that CALFED and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) have released the In-Delta Storage Program State Feasibility Study, which is the state's Feasibility Study for Delta Wetlands. CALFED was established to find solutions to California's water supply problems *before* the need reaches crisis proportions. The release of the Feasibility Study for the Delta Wetlands Project is a good beginning. We are writing to urge you to move forward expeditiously with the next steps of the study and evaluation of the Project.

The Feasibility Study finds that, "[t]he Delta Wetlands Project could provide a variety of benefits and contribute to meeting each of CALFED's four objectives for water supply reliability, water quality, ecosystem restoration, and levee system integrity." The Feasibility Study also finds that the Delta Wetlands Project would provide 217,000 acre-feet of new storage capacity for California, and finds that under all operating scenarios studied the project will provide the following benefits: Operational flexibility for the state water project, improved Delta water quality, additional wildlife habitat, storage for water transfers, reduced likelihood of flood damage in the Delta region, seismic stability, contribution to Delta requirements (D1641), state water project system wide carryover storage, and new recreational opportunities.



The Feasibility Study concludes that the Delta Wetlands Project requires some additional study. California needs the benefits that the Feasibility Study attributes to Delta Wetlands. We urge the California Bay-Delta Authority and the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee to promptly approve the next step of work on the Delta Wetlands Project so that we can continue to address California's vital water supply needs.

Sincerely,


ASSEMBLY MEMBER LOIS WOLK

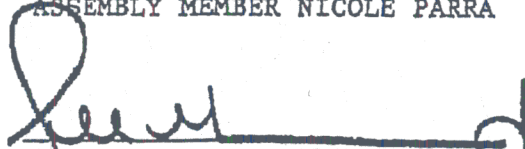

ASSEMBLY MEMBER BARBARA MATTHEWS

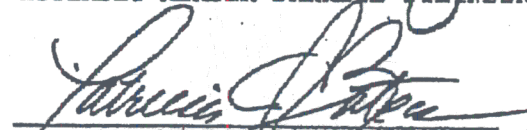

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ASSEMBLY MEMBER JOHN CAMPBELL

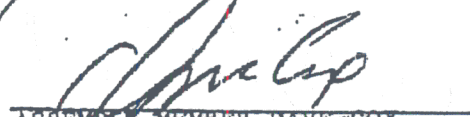

ASSEMBLY MEMBER NICOLE PARRA


ASSEMBLY MEMBER DARRELL STEINBERG

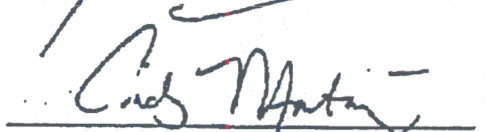

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ABEL MALDONADO

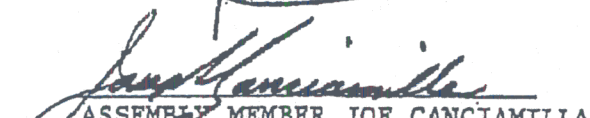

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SENATOR DEAN FLOREZ


ASSEMBLY MEMBER DAVE COX

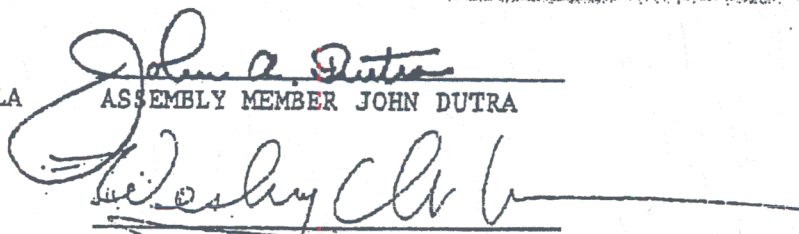

ASSEMBLY MEMBER RUDY BERMUDEZ


ASSEMBLY MEMBER CINDY MONTANEZ


ASSEMBLY MEMBER JOE CANCIAMILLA


ASSEMBLY MEMBER JOHN DUTRA


ASSEMBLY MEMBER DAVID COGDILL


SENATOR WESLEY CHESBRO

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ASSEMBLY MEMBER KEVIN McCARTHY
SENATOR DENISE MORENO DUCHENY

cc: The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Members of the California Bay-Delta Authority
Members of the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee